

Dr YL So's Speech at the Opening Ceremony of the 83rd Athletics Meet of WYCHK

Good morning!

I like the prayer just now very much! If you don't mind, I'd like to repeat the first few sentences here:

"I believe that God made me for a purpose. But he also made me fast, and when I run, I feel his pleasure."

It was written by Eric Liddell, a Scot who won a gold medal and a silver medal at the Paris Olympics in 1924. I first encountered it about 30 years ago when I watched the movie "Chariots of Fire". I was touched every time I heard it. I didn't know why. Then I noticed the word "But", and I realized that the prayer brought out something unique to human beings. Something that elevates human beings above other animals.

Think about it this way: A lion runs to catch a deer, and the deer runs to escape from the lion. They both run for a purpose. We human beings did the same. Today, we also run to catch a bus, to avoid being late for school. So we run for a purpose too.

However, we also run, just for the sake of running as fast as we can. We try to test our limits, and in doing so, we realize the full extent of our potentials in running. The same applies to other sports. When we compete, we are also bringing out our potentials. Such potentials are the most precious gifts we receive from whoever we believe is our Creator. And if we try our very best and push ourselves to our limits, we are also glorifying Him!

So today, I want you to give it all and do your very best!

Let me end with another of Eric Liddell's quotes:

"In the dust of defeat, as well as in the laurel of victory, there is glory to be found, if one has done his best."

YL So, 25th October, 2013